

# Former 'Girl Next Door' Bridget Marquardt: Reality Show?



Former *Girl Next Door* Bridget Marquardt has a new reality television show in the works. What's her only concern? Can she and boyfriend Nicolas Carpenter keep their relationship intact? She told [RadarOnline](#), "It's kind of fun to be able to share it with my boyfriend, but at the same time I have concerns with that as well...they always say that all these reality show couples end up breaking up and [have] lots of problems and stuff so I'm definitely listening to that and taking that into consideration. Maybe a formatted show is a better way to go." Bridget Marquardt is excited about the show and is also thrilled with her post-playboy life. She and Nicolas Carpenter, a director, hope to "...do some more horror movies together where I'm producing and he's directing and his brother is actually a writer so we kind of have a team here!"

**When do you go public with your relationship?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

It's always hard to take your relationship public, but before you tell your friends and family, consider a few things:

**1. Your intentions:** If you want only a brief fling out of your relationship, then there's no need to tell others, aside from a few close friends. However, if you hope the relationship will get serious, then tell your family. They'll be glad you've found someone!

**2. Time:** Before you tell your friends and family, give the relationship some time. The old saying, "time will tell" is definitely true in this situation. If it seems like your relationship is becoming promising, then share.

**3. Others' approval:** While you have the freedom to date whomever you like, having your family's approval is heartwarming. Before introducing your family to your beau, try envisioning your family's reaction. Prepare yourself for the best – and the worst outcomes.

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## Jersey Shore's Angelina Goes on a Terrifying Date





In spite of leaving her castmates at *Jersey Shore* before the end of the season for the second time, Angelina's reality TV career is far from over. According to [RadarOnline](#), just in time for Halloween, the Jersey girl appeared on IFC's 5-part horror satire series, *Dead Set*. It seems that Angelina may be trading in her tan juice head guidos for a much paler partner. As part of IFC's spoof, Angelina shocked the GTL off of her *Jersey Shore* castmates by dating the undead. Anyone who thinks their last blind date was bad can't top Angelina's date with a zombie. Her disgust can be seen as she speaks in candid detail about why this zombie isn't right for her. Perhaps, next time she will look for guys on the boardwalk instead of at the graveyard.

### **What are some date deal breakers? Cupid's Advice:**

There is nothing like a bad date to ruin a perfectly good evening. But, remember, going on a bad date isn't your fault, staying on one is:

- 1. Disrespect:** If your date makes hurtful comments about your appearance, family background, religion, or anything else, end the date immediately. This is unacceptable behavior that doesn't warrant a second of your attention.
- 2. Too touchy-feely:** Though everyone has a different timeline when it comes to the sensual side with someone you have been dating, if that's all your date is interested in, there is no point in dating him/her.
- 3. No chemistry:** Your date may be a great person, but there's

just something missing. He/she may appear to be the perfect partner, but maybe just not for you. Don't feel guilty; at least you didn't lead him on!

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## Jon Gosselin's Ex-Girlfriend Calls Him a Chronic Liar



After what seemed like a heartfelt message to his family and friends via Twitter, Jon Gosselin's ex-girlfriend Hailey Glassman is calling him out on his chronic lying habit. Gosselin tweeted, "I am acutely aware of the mistakes I made in 2009 and I am ashamed of the choices I made. I have apologized to Kate, my family, and to my friends. Through counseling I have learned to own my actions. My goal is to move forward in a positive direction." Despite Gosselin's seemingly good intentions, Glassman insists that his Twitter apology was just a "negotiating tactic to gain sympathy from the public," according to [RadarOnline](#). Glassman called her ex a "pathological liar" whose life coach once told her and her

parents to “accept his lying and not get mad at him for it because he will then never tell the truth.”

**Is there any time in a relationship when lying is okay?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

Honest communication is the crux of a healthy relationship, but sometimes telling white lies is necessary in certain situations. Cupid has some examples of instances when it’s okay bend the truth:

**1. You look so thin!:** If she asks, “Does this make me look fat?” tell her “no,” whether it’s true or not. Sometimes you need to fib to spare her feelings, especially when talking about her appearance. There’s no need to bring insecurities into your relationship.

**2. Thanks, I love it!:** Whether it’s a diamond ring or a pair of socks, this is always the correct response when receiving a gift. If you don’t want to offend your mate, pretend you love it... then if necessary, quietly return it later.

**3. I’m not attracted to other people:** Just because you notice when a total babe walks by doesn’t mean you have to tell your partner! Some things are better left unsaid.

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## **Love Lessons From ABC’s ‘The Bachelor’**



By Erika Vujnovich

While there's no question that *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* are must-watch television shows, statistics show that out of a 19 seasons, only two couples have stayed together, while waiting to see how the latest relationship between bachelorette Ali Fedotowsky and Roberto Martinez ends up. These are programs designed to produce long-lasting marriages, yet we often wonder whether we can call them reality TV or merely fantasy, designed to whet the appetite of women and men everywhere. Season after season, the program dominates the ratings with an average audience of 10 million viewers taking part in a voyeuristic game of watching desperate singles attempt to find true love.

If you're looking for "happily ever after" and contemplating the reality show route, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- 1. Get real:** Each season, the contestants are whisked away to some exotic location to fall in love. Viewers watch as the couples travel over the canyons in helicopters, fly through the sky on rip cords or bask in the sun on a tropical island with a breathtaking backdrop. These settings could make even the biggest skeptic feel like they're falling in love. Let's face it, reality isn't always having the luxury to lounge on the beach and sip champagne with your partner, but rather it's realizing how you couple cope with money problems, children

and everyday monotonous routines.

**2. Play the field, but keep it simple:** For those of you not familiar with the concept of the show, the series revolves around one man or woman dating 25 singles in the hopes that they will find a partner for life. Throughout the season, the bachelor goes on a series of group dates, two-on-one dates and one-on-one dates. At the end of the journey, two contestants are left standing from which a fiancé is ultimately chosen. According to [Match.com](http://Match.com), there are several benefits of dating more than one person at the same time, "Multi-dating isn't merely a tactic for doubling your pleasure. Rather, during your hunt for 'The One', it can be a way to achieve romantic wholeness by dating partners with differing interests and personalities." This may be true but you also want to make sure you don't let your emotions get the better of you. Dating several people at one time can stir up feelings leaving you confused.

**3. Don't come across as desperate:** Put 25 singles against each other in a competition to land the perfect mate and you are sure to see some desperation among the contestants. Think about it: they all came on the reality dating show with one sole purpose – to find love and get married (or at least that's what they said). Therefore, it's no surprise that drama always finds its way into the story. When dating, try not to make yourself too available or be the one always initiating contact. This could come across as desperate. Be confident, attentive and a bit assertive, but most importantly, just be you.

*The next season of "The Bachelor" returns to ABC in January 2011.*

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# Poker Pro Beth Shak on Millionaire Matchmaker



By Victoria Sullivan

Though the poker table may be an excellent place to meet men, it's no longer just a man's game. Cupid was there in Midtown Manhattan at the Spot at the Table Charity Poker Tournament where Asylum.com teamed up with Poker Pro, Beth Shak, who will soon make an appearance on Bravo's Millionaire Matchmaker.

After discovering poker in 2002, Shak has conquered more than just tournaments. As the card shark, style mogul, and philanthropist told Cupid, "Poker has helped me learn so much about men." She goes on to explain that she's "treated like a women" when she first sits down at the table "but after playing for hours, men tend to forget and start to let their guards down and be themselves." When we asked Shak about men being intimidated by her she didn't think it was intimidation, she said "men just don't want to lose to a woman."

A key ingredient to playing poker is having the ability to read people. Shak uses her intuition to play the table. As a woman playing in a male-dominant sport, the advantage is



that as a woman she thinks differently than they do. This helps her game. When it comes to her love life, it isn't all that different. Shak notes that if any guy claims to be too busy to see her, she's bound to call their bluff. She offers some good advice (women listen up). She notes that men can multi-task. For example, they can use the mens' room, grab a bite to eat and get back to the poker table all within a 15 minute time period. She's got a great point!

After seeing Shak in her element, Cupid is counting down the minutes for her *Millionaire Matchmaker* episode to air. Though Shak didn't give much away, she did issue the following statement exclusively to Cupid: "Millionaire Matchmaker was an amazing experience. I loved Patty. The past two years have been a life transition for me (going through divorce, etc). She helped me see clearly about a few important things in relationships."

Stay tuned for the Season Premiere of Bravo's Millionaire Matchmaker tonight @ 9/8c!

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## Ali Fedotowsky and Roberto Martinez Slow It Down





After finding love on the reality TV hit, *The Bachelorette*, Ali Fedotowsky and Roberto Martinez announced that they planned to elope. Though still head over heels for one another, the happy couple has decided not to tie the knot immediately. As Fedotowsky recently told [People](#), “Nothing has changed – we’re still just as happy as we were when we were finished [with the show]; we were so excited. We were like, ‘Oh, we’re going to get married right away.’ But if you’re rushing because you’re in love, why rush? [Just] wait. You’re going to get married anyway. We’re both sort of enjoying life.” The soon-to-be newlyweds have moved to San Diego together and are considering wedding venues on the west coast. **Why is it important to take things slow?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Taking things slow or slowing things down doesn’t mean you are any less in love. Couples who mutually decide to jog to the altar instead of running there are simply doing what they feel is best for them:

**1. Only fools rush in:** Just because you’re in love doesn’t mean you have to walk down the aisle tomorrow. Take the time to enjoy each other’s company and plan your dream wedding. This moment should only happen once.

**2. You know best when the time is right:** Your gut feeling is almost always correct. If the only rationale you have for taking it slow is that making the next move doesn’t feel right, trust yourself. There’s probably a reason you’re internally hesitating.

**3. Love knows no schedule:** Don't let anyone tell you or your partner that it's time to get married or move in together. There are no deadlines when it comes to love.

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## NYC Singles: Let's Play Poker!



Cupid loves Poker. Why? Because eligible single men love poker. That's right NY ladies. If there is one place where you are guaranteed to meet men, it's at a poker tournament. If there is one place where you can meet eligible Manhattan bachelors it's at the charity poker tournament, *Spot at the Table* with poker pro Beth Shak.

When: October 12

Time: 7pm-11pm

Where: Luxe Lounge- Lucky Strike Manhattan  
42nd St & 12th Ave

Beth Shak is known for more than just her pretty poker face;

she is considered a Red Sole Diva with a very impressive shoe collection (1400 Louboutins to be exact) and will also be a featured millionaire on Millionaire Matchmaker next month where Patti teaches Beth tough love at its finest.

The charity in brief detail is four lucky Asylum.com readers get the chance to compete along with Beth in a charity event next Tuesday Oct. 12 at the private Luxe Lounge in the luxurious Lucky Strike Lanes. The winner of the poker game will donate the money raised at the event to a charity of their choice.

Although donating to charity is a reward in itself, the winning prize is the "Ultimate Bachelor Pack" consisting of a private Social Poker party, Rue 57 gift card and more.

For the event, there will be a private DJ, unlimited bowling in 4 private lanes, billiards, 1 hour open bar sponsored by ZYR vodka, delicious appetizers and of course, a bunch of poker tables. Don't know how to play poker, ladies? It's okay; there will be instructor tables for beginners to learn the basics.

The tickets are an affordable price and will be available through ticketbud.com (\$40 General Admission and \$100 Seat at a Table)

That same evening, Beth will also be filming a feature with German primetime television show, Stars and Stories which airs primetime every Monday on SAT1.

For Ticket Sales: <http://spotatthetable.ticketbud.com/tickets>

For more contest info:  
<http://www.asylum.com/2010/09/27/asylum-beth-shak-poker-event/>

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# Is Brad Womack Back for More 'Bachelor'?



After infamously dumping both DiAnna Pappas and Jenni Croft on the 11th season of *The Bachelor*, Brad Womack may be given a second shot at love. According to [Us Magazine](#), Womack is being considered for the 15th season of the popular dating show. “Brad is very sincere and believes in the show,” a source close to the series says. “That’s why he didn’t pick someone last time. He was never in it for the publicity. He wants to find a wife.” Along with Womack, producers are rumored to also be considering bachelors Ty Brown and Chris Lambton for the show. The official word will be delivered today on *Dancing With the Stars*. The question is, who would you rather?

**Does your guy have a fear of commitment?**

Cupid’s Advice:

Sometimes singles can find themselves still hurting from a past breakup or afraid to get out of their comfort zone and try something new. Cupid has a few tips on how to tell if your beau is afraid to find love:

**1. He's hesitant to put himself out there:** Although he's outgoing and has no problem having a good time, he seems unavailable for anything more than fun and parties.

**2. He won't take the plunge:** Is your guy refusing to meet your family? If so, he might be hesitating because he's leery of taking the next step in your relationship.

**3. Worst-case scenario:** If you've decided your beau truly has a fear of commitment, try to stay reasonable. Talk some sense into him by laying down the facts. Let him know that the worst that can happen is that you break up sometime in the future, but that the best that can happen is that you're incredibly happy together. It's a small risk to take when the result could be a lifetime of true love.

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## Chris Lambton and Ty Brown in Talks to be Next 'Bachelor'



Two of last season's bachelors, who

appeared on *The Bachelorette*, may have a second chance at love. According to [People](#), sources say Chris Lambton and Ty Brown are among those who have been “in serious talks” with ABC about the next season of *The Bachelor*. Neither Lambton nor Brown have confirmed as of yet. Meanwhile, ABC and Warner Horizon, who produce *The Bachelor*, decline to comment on casting speculation. **Can you find true love on reality TV?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Reality TV has taken over the airwaves, and many in search of love have turned to the tube to see if they can find their soul mates. Cupid is here with some advice to help determine if searching for love on TV will result in a prime-time relationship or leave you with nothing but dead air:

- 1. Let's get real:** Learn to spot the difference between real love and camera love. Are the contestants actually falling for each other, or are they simply influenced by the desire to become famous and grab as much air time as possible?
- 2. Don't get blinded by the spotlight:** If you are determined to find true love on a reality show, make sure you define your priorities. The goal is to find a soul mate, not to let the paparazzi and tabloids dictate your feelings.
- 3. Avoid playing the desperate role:** You have to wonder if people who go on national TV to find love are serious or simply desperate. According to Starpulse, it's called “not having anything else to do.” Being stuck in a house with dozens of other women competing to earn one man's attention will most definitely make you *think* you are falling in love, so make sure to separate your sense of competition from actual emotion.

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# 'Real Housewives' Men Enlist Help From 'Millionaire Matchmaker'



Two men of the *Real Housewives of New Jersey* are enlisting the help of *The Millionaire Matchmaker's* Patti Stanger in an effort to find love, reported [Us Weekly](#). *Real Housewives* matriarch Caroline Manzo will watch as her two sons, Christopher and Albie, look for their perfect matches with expert assistance. Albie Manzo, 24, is a law school student and policeman, while his brother Christopher Manzo, 21, is an entrepreneur. Stanger and her team relocate to California for the fourth season of their hit show.

**Can matchmakers help you find true love?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

There's no denying it – it can sometimes be difficult to find the right partner. If you're feeling burnt out from the search, think about asking for help. Cupid has some things to



consider about enlisting the assistance of a matchmaker:

**1. It's expensive:** There are certainly cheaper ways to go about finding a mate. Matchmakers can often times charge a hefty fee. On the other hand, if it does lead you to your perfect partner, isn't it worth it?

**2. Enlist e-assistance:** E-matchmaking has become commonplace in today's society. Services like Match.com and eHarmony are well-known by singles and couples alike, and they can be a great place to start. But can a computer really find love for you? Cupid's point: what have you got to lose?

**3. Consider its history:** Matchmaking has been around for many years in differing forms. For instance, arranged marriage is still practiced in places such as South Asia and the Middle East. Although obviously an extreme type of matchmaking, the practice performs a similar function – bringing those together who would not otherwise have met.

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## Former 'Bachelor' Star Ali Fedotowsky and Vienna Girardi Meet Again





Bachelorette Ali Fedotowsky recently ran into an unexpected woman from her past: Vienna Girardi, former fellow contestant and fiancée of Jake Pavelka. On season six of *The Bachelor*, Ali and Vienna went head-to-head in a competition for Jake's heart. In the end, Vienna snagged Jake, only to have their very public breakup displayed on Ali's season of *The Bachelorette* a few months later. The reality stars came face-to-face again at the Kari Feinstein Style Lounge at Montage Beverly Hills, where they kept the conversation short. An onlooker told [US Weekly](#), "Ali made sure to keep her distance while hanging with girlfriends," but both said 'hi' briefly.

## **Should you be friends with your ex's ex?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

For many, running into an ex's ex can resurrect old feelings of the past. If you chose to befriend this person, you may want to consider these simple points of advice first:

**1. Be cautious:** It's important to keep personal information to yourself until you get to know this person better. Trust is critical and you don't know if she's the type who will talk about you behind your back.

**2. Learn more:** If you've decided that she's trustworthy, you can use your new friendship as a way to better understand your own relationship with your ex. Learning about her relationship with him helps put your own in perspective.

**3. Feelings for the ex:** It's great to be friends with someone

who can empathize with you, but if you still have feelings for him, it's important to be honest. You don't want to be surprised when you see the girl you thought was your friend back with the man you both agreed to leave behind forever.

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## 'Bachelorette' Star Ali Fedotowsky Ignores Rumors



Former Bachelorette Ali Fedotowsky is glad to have fiancé Roberto Martinez by her side. [E! Online](#) reports that Fedotowsky “[doesn’t] pay attention to” rumors pertaining to past partying and racy photographs. Swirling rumors have bothered the blonde bachelorette in the past, but with a new attitude (and a new support system), Fedotowsky finds it easy to keep her head held high. Fedotowsky reveals that her new fiancé is extremely supportive and “always says, ‘Who cares, babe? It’s just us. It’s just about us. None of that stuff matters.’” Fedotowsky says she counts herself “lucky to have a man like that to give me balance and keep me focused on what’s important.” **How can you help your partner**

deal with a stressful problem?

**Cupid's Advice:**

**1. Be a good listener:** If your partner is having a problem at work or with friends, chances are they're going to want to vent. It is important to sit quietly and listen carefully to their worries. When they are done venting and you fully understand their insecurities about the problem at hand, offer your input.

**2. Don't be overbearing:** When a loved one is stressed, it's natural to want to help as much as possible. You can give them advice and offer your point of view, but you have to be careful. This is their problem and their decision, and you have to respect their opinion, even if you don't agree with it.

**3. Honesty:** When you must intervene in your partners decision-making process, you have to be supportive, polite, and honest. Gently remind them to consider all of their options before making a decision. Your honesty will help your partner resolve their problem effectively and without any resentment.

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**'The Bachelorette' & Her Fiancé Step Out in Style!**





*Bachelorette* Ali Fedotowsky and fiancé Roberto Martinez were officially able to step out as a couple, [E! News](#) reported Tuesday. The two had to keep their romance under wraps after the show finished filming to keep the ending a secret before the finale aired Monday night on ABC. Cupid sends his congratulations to the happy couple!

### **What are ways to celebrate your engagement?**

#### **Cupid's Advice:**

When Fedotowsky and Martinez were finally able to reveal the news, they did so in style. There are all kinds of ways to let friends and family know you're engaged. Let Cupid help:

- 1. Family style:** For couple's who have tight-knit families, a simple dinner for both sides might be enough of a party to start things off. Have them over to one of your homes and make it a personal affair for everyone who matters most.
  - 2. Night on the town:** You could go the surprise route and invite all your friends for a night out. Don't mention the engagement, and see who notices the ring first. At that point, drinks all around will be a no-brainer!
  - 3. Party time:** To keep everyone happy, throw a large celebration for everyone in your life – the more the merrier!
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# 'Bachelorette' Ali Fedotowsky Engaged to Roberto Martinez!



This season's *Bachelorette* ended with an unconventional bang! Ali Fedotowsky chose to not have her second last date with Chris Lambdton, and instead, sent him home early on Monday's finale. It turns out that Roberto Martinez had already won Fedotowsky's heart, [E! Online](#) reported Monday, despite rumors that she hadn't chosen anyone, as Ryan Seacrest predicted in his podcast earlier that day. Other unexpected surprises of this season included Frank Neuschaefer's early departure to return to his ex on the July 19 episode. Cupid wishes reality TV's newest couple luck!

**How do you know if the one you love is Mr. or Mrs. Right?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

Reality TV sometimes gets a bad rap for being predictable, or staged. However, this season's *Bachelorette* got to the heart of everyone's true feelings, whether it was Frank leaving the show early, or Ali already knowing who the right man for her was. Cupid wants to help, and has some ways to help you decide if you've found the perfect mate:

**1. It's all about honesty:** Infatuation can disguise itself as love by providing the surface feelings of the real deal. In order to be sure, dig into your heart and see how far down your lover is before making a lasting commitment.

**2. Let's talk about love:** In order to determine true love, don't just trust your gut. Talk it out together, and make sure you're both on the same page.

**3. Step back:** If you need to know if your feelings are what they seem, take a solo trip away from your partner for a week or two, and avoid or limit contact as much as possible. If true feelings are there, your love will remain when you return.

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## Jessie Sulidis Dating Former 'Bachelorette' Contestant, Kirk DeWindt



It seems like a new reality TV relationship is in the works! Jessie Sulidis (from *Bachelor*

spinoff [The Bachelor Pad](#)) is rumored to be dating recent *Bachelorette* reject, Kirk DeWindt, [People](#) reported last week. Last season on *The Bachelor*, both Ali Fedotowsky and Sulidis were contestants trying to win Jake Pavelka's heart, and became friends in the process. DeWindt was recently rejected by Fedotowsky on *The Bachelorette* after he brought her to meet his parents. He then met Sulidis while taping the *Men Tell All* special, and exchanged numbers, as well as a kiss, a source told *People*. "Everything is hush-hush right now because they don't know what will come of it. But he is definitely over Ali!" the source added.

## **Is it ever OK to date a friend's ex?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

The jury is still out on etiquette for dating a friend's ex. If you find yourself in this type of situation (on either end), follow Cupid's advice to help keep the peace:

- 1. Sparks may fly:** If you're introduced to a friend's ex and you find an immediate connection with him or her, discuss your feelings with your friend before thinking of taking your attraction to the next level.
- 2. Be honest:** Unfortunately, if an ex is attracted to a current friend of yours, you may feel compelled to accept the situation, instead of speaking up if it bothers you. Hurt feelings will likely result from your lack of honesty, so be truthful with yourself, your friend, and your ex.
- 3. Learn the difference:** Determine whether or not your friend's initial intrigue is simply physical attraction, as opposed to a strong emotional connection that can't be fought. Understanding the difference may prevent confusion between the three of you later.



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# Frank Dumps 'Bachelorette' Ali Fedotowsky for Ex-Girlfriend



This week on ABC's *The Bachelorette*, Ali Fedotowsky found herself dumped by Frank Neuschaefer, one of the final three bachelors competing for her heart and hand in marriage, reported [NJ.com](http://NJ.com). Prior to the show's trip to Tahiti, Neuschaefer stopped off in Chicago to visit Nicole, his ex-girlfriend, one last time. The moment he saw her, old feelings rushed back, and he realized he was still in love with her. Neuschaefer told Ali what happened, saying, "The second I saw her, all the old feelings kinda came rushing back. Ali, I'm sorry."

**What do you do if *you* think you still have feelings for an ex?"**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Love can be complicated and unrelenting. If you find yourself between a current love and a former flame, read Cupid's ways on how to choose between the two:

**1. Weigh your feelings:** Being in love with two people causes a lot of emotion that can cloud your instincts. Take a moment and write down your feelings for each, and then read through the list. Sometimes, the answer will be right in front of you.

**2. Physical vs. emotional:** Picture yourself with each of them separately, and figure out what draws you to them. You might find that while the physical attraction fades, the one you truly love will remain in your heart.

**3. Talk to others that know you:** If you still can't make up your mind about who you should be with, phone a friend and ask their opinion of your relationship with each. Do they see you as happy? Stressed? Bored? When you're with the one you truly love, you'll find positive attributes, such as contentment, happiness and bliss.

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## 'The Bachelorette' Star Ali Fedotowsky Picks Her Man





Ali Fedotowsky began her stint on ABC's *The Bachelorette* with 20 eligible men vying for her love. Last week, [US Weekly](#) reported that she says she's confident she chose the right man as her future husband during the season finale. Fedotowsky narrowed down her contenders to three in last week's episode, and her final choice will be revealed during the ABC finale on August 2. Though the lucky guy has not been revealed, Fedotowsky told *US* that a 2011 wedding is in the works.

**How do you know if you've chosen the right partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Most of us aren't lucky enough to have a slew of suitors at our door, but it's important that we weed out the good partners from the bad when potential lovers do come around.

**1. Stranger danger:** When you begin dating, you can't possibly know all of your partners' dirty little secrets, but remember that more times than not, the past has a way of presenting itself. Keep your ears and eyes open, and take the time to get to know someone before settling down.

**2. Ask for directions:** When choosing a long term partner, it's important that both people are heading in a similar direction, or are willing to compromise to make things work. For example, if you want a commitment and he or she doesn't, or you want to live in the suburbs and they won't move out of the city, these differences could be a relationship deal-breaker.

**3. Love and trust:** The most important traits in a future mate

is that they love you and treat you well. If you don't feel love, trust, or respect, then you should move on and wait for someone better.

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## Ali Fedotowsky: Stay-At-Home-Mom Not in Future Plans



(Spoiler alert!) Last week on ABC's *The Bachelorette*, a competitive reality dating game show, Ali Fedotowsky, had a one-on-one date with contestant Ty. She found out he ended his previous marriage because his ex-wife worked, and he was looking for a traditional stay-at-home mom. Traditional is something that Ali is certainly not. "I imagine a lot of the women cringed when they heard Ty make the comment about women being presidents of companies," Fedotowsky told Reality TV Calender last week. "Ha ha. Trust me, I cringed too." Ty ended up being eliminated last night – Ali was still concerned about his traditional values.

**What should you do if you're dating a man who expects a "traditional" wife, and you are anything but?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

While more women opt to work and pursue a career than be a stay-at-home mom, many men still expect a 1950's housewife. Here's Cupid's take on dealing with this outdated stereotype:

**1. Talk before you walk:** Make sure you're both clear with what you are looking for from the other person. Also, consider that some men look at women working as a loss of power. In the book *Choices in Relationships: An Introduction to Marriage and the Family*, the author says many men who want a traditional wife think that a woman earning more money threatens their masculinity, and their status as head of the household.

**2. Think of the kids:** According to family therapist Gayle Peterson, studies show that children who have working mothers tend to have higher self-esteem, since working mothers feel happier with themselves, and those good feelings spread to family members. Also, some families might need that two person income to provide for the children.

**3. Figure out work/life balance:** Talk with your partner to figure out the best way to balance work and house duties. Map out schedules and share responsibility.